(ख) इस बातचीत में भारत की ओर से कितने प्रतिनिधियों ने भाग लिया;

(ग) इसमें किन-किन विषयों पर विचार-विमर्श हुआ; और

(घ) उस चर्चा के क्या परिणाम निकले और उनका क्या महत्व है?

रक्षा मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एन.वी.एन. सोमू): (क) तथा (ख) हाल ही में जापान में आयोजित तीसरी एशिया प्रशान्त सुरक्षा संगोष्ठी में एक भारतीय प्रतिनिधि ने भाग लिया।

(ग) तथा (घ) इस संगोष्ठी में अन्य बातों के साथ-साथ जापान की रक्षा नीति, एशिया-प्रशान्त क्षेत्र में क्षेत्रीय सुरक्षा सहयोग, अमेरिका-जापान संबंध तथा एशिया-प्रशान्त क्षेत्र में विश्वास का वातावरण बनाने संबंधी उपायों के मुद्दों पर भी विचार-विमर्श किया गया। इस संगोष्ठी का उद्देश्य एशिया प्रशान्त क्षेत्र के देशों के बीच विचार-विमर्श के द्वारा आपसी समझ तथा विश्वास का वातावरण बनाने को बढ़ावा देना था।

Coin-operated PCOs in Tamil Nadu

1302. SHRI N. THALAVAI SUNDARAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Tamil Nadu Telecom propose to instal and operate latest Coin-operated PCOs in the State;

(b) if so, by when this programme is likely to be installed operational; and

(c) the number of such machines proposed to be installed in Tamil Nadu in 1996-97?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) By March, 1997.

(c) 1050 Coin operated PCOs are proposed to be installed in Tamil Nadu during 1996-97 subject to receipt of instruments from Telecom Factory.

Head Post Office and Sub Post Office in Maharashtra

1303. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Head Post Offices, Sub-Post Offices extra departmental Sub-Post Office and extra departmental Branch Post Offices presently functioning in the State of Maharashtra;

(b) the district-wise and category-wise details thereof;

(c) whether Government have any proposal to increase the number of Post Offices in each of these categories; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA): (a) and (b) There are 61 Head Post Offices, 2091 Departmental Sub Post Offices, 129 Extra Departmental Sub Post Offices and 10029 Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices in Maharashtra State. The District-wise and category wise details are given in the enclosed statement. *(see below)*

(c) and (d) the Post Offices are opened under Annual Plan Scheme progressively subject to fulfilment of norms relating to opening of Post Offices and availability of resources.

Statement

Details of post offices district wise & category-wise till date

Sl. No.	Name of District	Head Post Offices	Depart-mental Sub Post Offices	Extra Depart-mental Sub Post Offices	Extra Depart-mental Branch Offices	Total
1.	Mumbai	11	254	—	9	274
2.	Ahmednagar	2	104	—	539	645
3.	Akola	1	47	5	340	393
4.	Amrawati	2	52	20	373	447
5.	Aurangabad	1	58	—	299	358
6.	Buldana	2	56	8	280	346
7.	Bhandana	2	32	7	259	300
8.	Beed	1	33	—	285	319
9.	Chandrapur	1	33	5	262	301
10.	Dhule	1	53	—	399	453
11.	Gadchiroli	—	17	—	204	221
12.	Jalna	1	20	—	145	166
13.	Jalgaon	3	71	14	424	512
14.	Kolhapur	3	92	10	435	540
15.	Latur	1	29	—	256	286
16.	Nagpur	3	109	7	226	345
17.	Nanded	1	50	—	404	455
18.	Nasik	3	90	—	571	664
19.	Osmanabad	1	29	—	244	275
20.	Pune	3	208	1	582	794
21.	Parbhani	1	32	—	270	303
22.	Raigad	2	43	3	276	324
23.	Ratnagiri	2	79	4	553	638
24.	Solapur	2	93	5	431	531
25.	Satara	2	88	9	556	655
26.	Sangli	2	80	15	326	423
27.	Sindhudurga	2	55	5	291	353
28.	Thane	3	113	3	317	436
29.	Wardha	1	29	3	152	185
30.	Yeotmal	1	42	5	321	369
	TOTAL	61	2091	129	10029	12310

Crash of IAF helicopter in Siachen

1304. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the IAF-MF-17 helicopter which crashed in Siachen sometime in August, 1996 was actually shot down by a Pakistani missile;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (Shri N.V.N. Somu): (a) to (c) The report of the Court of Inquiry ordered to ascertain the cause of MI-17 helicopter accident in Siachen